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SULLIVAN & CROMWELL

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CLIENT_____

September 12, 1947.

Courtlandt Canby, Esq.,
Saturday Review of Literature,
25 West 45th Street,
New York 19, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Canby:

I mentioned to you over the telephone my astonishment at what franklin ford had to say in his review of the Gisevius book in the "Saturday Review" of August 9, 1947.

These days there is far too much loose character defamation and to my mind the review falls in this category.

The views which anyone may have as to the literary or historical value of a book are largely a matter of personal judgment and here reasonable men might easily differ. I find it, however, somewhat shocking that this reviewer, to whom the official record of the Nurnberg trial is readily available, should have taken a quotation from some distant and obscure newspaper in Baden as evidence of testimony given at the trial. The reviewer admits it is difficult to reconcile his quotation with the statements of Mr. Justice Jackson, but without any apparent attempt to check its accuracy, he proceeds, largely on the basis of this newspaper fabrication, to blacken a man's reputation.

I don't know how historians view this, but I would compare it, as a lawyer, to the procedure of an advocate who turned to the "Toonerville Trumpet" rather than to the official reports as evidence of what the Supreme Court might have decided.

As of possible interest to you I enclose an excerpt from the official transcript of the Nurnberg Tribunal - cross-examination of Hans Bernd Gisevius by Mr. Justice Jackson - which undoubtedly is the passage of the testimony which the Baden paper purports to misquote. You can judge yourself how justified your reviewer's conclusions may have been.

I am not writing this for publication and do not wish at this time to request that it be published, particularly as I do not know what action, if any, Gisevius may wish to take.

Courtlandt Canby, Esq.

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I am writing it to you, however, so that it will be on record in your files since it is obvious that I would not have written the kind of foreword which I wrote for the Gisevius book if on the basis of almost five years' acquaintance with the man, I had any reason to believe there was the slightest inkling of truth to the charge made in this review that "whatever the outcome of World War II, Mr. Gisevius would have been on hand to congratulate the victors".

Faithfully yours,

A. W. Dulles